Message Text

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R 192319Z JAN 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:MASS, KS

SUBJECT: F-16'S FOR KOREA

REF: A) SEOUL 0441, B)STATE 10805

- 1. NO DECISION HAS YET BEEN MADE ON THE PENDING REQUEST FOR AN LOA COVERING 60 F-16 AIRCRAFT FOR KOREA. OUR BEST ASSESSMENT OF HOW THAT DECISION IS LIKELY TO COME OUT REMAINS THE SAME AS DESCRIBED IN REFERENCE A.
- 2. THE EMBASSY'S ASSUMPTION THAT THERE IS A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE F-16 DECISION AND THE CEILING FOR FY 78 TO BE ESTABLISHED UNDER THE PRESIDENT'S ARMS TRANSFER POLICY IS CORRECT. THE FRAMEWORK BEING USED FOR MAKING THE ARMS TRANSFER CEILING DECISION DOES NOT INCLUDE F-16'S FOR KOREA IN FY 78. IT DOES, HOWEVER, RECOGNIZE THAT THIS REQUEST IS CONFIDENTIAL

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PENDING AND WILL HAVE TO BE DEALT WITH IN A SUCCEEDING YEAR.

3. MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE ARMS TRANSFER CEILING, HOWEVER, ARE THE CONSIDERATIONS CITED IN REF B, INCLUDING THE NEED TO GIVE HIGHEST PRIORITY TO THE UPGRADING OF KOREAN GROUND EQUIPMENT AND THE ADVISABILITY OF SECURING CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL FOR THE PROPOSED EQUIPMENT TRANSFER LEGISLATION

REFORE THE	CONTROVERSIAL	F-16 PROPOSAL IS	S PUT BEFORE THE

CONGRESS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event:

Disposition Event:
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